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Library Profile/University of North Carolina/ Chapel Hill

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Library Profile

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

by Janet L. Flowers (Head, Acquisitions)



Institution Profile:

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is the oldest state university in the country, having been founded in 1793. It is part of the consolidated university, which consists of 16 campuses. There are three separately administered libraries on the campus: Academic Affairs, Health Sciences, and Law. This article is about the Academic Affairs Library which includes Davis (the Graduate Library), Wilson (the Library for Special Collections), House (for Undergraduates), and 11 departmental libraries ranging from music to chemistry.

Library Profile

The Academic Affairs Library System supports the teaching and research needs of faculty and students in the academic affairs division as well as citizens of the state. The Library is divided into three divisions: Public Services, Technical Services, and Special Collections. There are four departments in Technical Services: Collection Development, Acquisitions, Serials, and Cataloging.

Acquisitions Profile: Monographic Acquisitions

Acquisitions places orders for monographs; the Serials Department handles on-going subscriptions and standing orders. Both departments began using the acquisitions and serials control sub-systems of INNOPAC at the end of May 1991.

Acquisitions is divided into two sections: Bibliographic Searching and Order. The searchers verify pre-order requests and handle approval plans, the major one being the university press plan. The Order Section keys orders into INNOPAC, performs any necessary follow-up, receives the material, and clears the invoice for processing. The Library Accounting Department processes the invoices into

INNOPAC before forwarding them to University Accounting for payment. The primary way of acquiring material is through firm orders. Requests are submitted by the Collection Development Department and other requesters. The major approval plan is for university press titles although there are several smaller plans.

The responsibility for gifts was transferred from the Order Section to the Searching Section as of January 2, 1992. This past year, the department received over 17,000 gifts. Material not wanted is included in the annual book sale.

The department head and the section heads are professionals. In addition, the department of 19 staff, has four Library Technical Assistants. Two supervise students, one is a Technical Support Manager, and one is the Approval Plan Specialist.

The Technical Support Manager oversees all technical equipment in the department, including BIS (our current online catalog), OCLC, INNOPAC, and the microcomputers. He has written several error detection programs, using Procomm, to monitor the accuracy of our fixed field data in INNOPAC.

Acquisitions Profile: Serials Acquisitions

The Serials Department is divided into three sections: Central Serial Record, Binding Preparation, and Serials List. The CSR has a supervisor and 5 acquisitions assistants. The binding unit prepares binding specifications for the main library. The Serials List Unit had responsibility for the coding and adding of holdings to our serials fiche, but instead, we are now able to add holdings directly into BIS. In addition to their technical responsibilities, all staff serve on the serials information desk. The department has converted 10,000 titles into INNOPAC since May and plans to begin checking in online in January 1992.

Collection Development

The Collection Development Department consists of 8 professional staff (1 Department Head, 6 bibliographers, and 1 cataloger). In addition, the department has 1 Library Technical Assistant II who supervises graduate assistants working in the Central Office. There is also one Library Technical Assistant in each of the three area resource centers, each of whom supervises student and graduate assistants. The departmental secretary supervises student assistants in the Central Office, bringing to 13 the total number of permanent staff members. The bibliographers have primary responsibility for identifying and selecting current materials for the main library. The reference librarians and departmental librarians select for their own collections. Faculty are involved in identification and selection of retrospective and specialized titles.

The area bibliographers specialize in East Asian, Latin American and Iberian, and Slavic. There is also a bibliographer for Western Europe. The humanities and social sciences bibliographers divide responsibility for domestic and British publication as well as English language titles in other parts of the world. The departmental librarians identify and select materials for their collections.

The bibliographers classify their selections into one of four priorities. Priority 1 is for material that is an essential resource for the teaching or research mission of the university. Priority 2 is for important material related to our curriculum. Priority 3 is for material that would be useful, especially over the longer term. Priority 4, which includes highly specialized material (by subject, language, or format), would be marginal or tangential to our core collection. During the past several years, UNC-CH has been able to purchase only

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Aqueduct Action Agenda

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delivery, they must enhance technical and human resources to speed and improve interlibrary access. Likewise, libraries relying on article delivery from other libraries must accept the costs incurred by the supplying library in providing access.

3) Standards, strategies, costs, and responsibilities for archiving electronic journals are uncertain. Librarians should respond to this opportunity by working with publishers and computer centers to create standards and cost-effective strategies, and to determine libraries' role in storing, accessing, and archiving electronic journals.

4) Donald Koepp, Director of Libraries at Princeton University, targeted Pergamon Press journals for cancellation because of inordinately high price increases on top of already high prices. His action is an example of focused cancellations intended to send a message to publishers. Librarians should share the Koepp letter with library users and pursue additional measures of focusing attention on the expensive prices of some publishers.

5) In selection and cancellation decisions, openly acknowledge journal price and price history as significant criteria.

6) Notify journal editors and publishers directly of reasons for cancelling journal titles.

7) Share cancellation lists and criteria for cancellation within a consortium or region in order to promote cooperative collection development.

8) Research articles produced by federal employees as a consequence of their employment are exempt from copyright. Likewise, librarians and library organizations should seek regulations which prohibit copyright of written reports of all publicly funded research.

9) Encourage authors to retain the

rights to their written work for their own use, for teaching, and for use by their libraries and institutions.

10) Engage library users in a continuing dialog about the issues associated with serials pricing. Among these issues is the wide disparity between individual and institutional prices. Devise strategies for identifying excessive institutional journal prices and seek user support in eliminating these journals from our collections.

11) Encourage authors and editors to consider price-competitive publishers for dissemination of their research.

12) Inform subscription agents that firm prices must be distinguished from preliminary prices on all invoices. Further, inform vendors that additional billings will not be accepted on titles where previous billings indicated firm prices.

13) Analyze subscription invoices carefully and verify the accuracy of vendor service charges.

14) The aqueduct group will compile and produce a benchmark list of 100 journal titles for comparison of prices paid to various subscription agents and directly to the publishers.

Aqueduct participants

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priority 1s and a few 2s. This year, Walter R. Davis, for whom the graduate library is named, donated \$490,000 for the purchase of some of those books missed during the past several years of lean state funding.

Automation Profile

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is a member of TRLN,

the Triangle Research Libraries Network, a local consortium for resource-sharing. Duke University and North Carolina State University are the other two members of TRLN. Duke, North Carolina State, and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill currently share BIS (Bibliographic Information System), our locally-developed online public catalog. In the coming year, TRLN hopes to migrate to a vendor-supplied OPAC.

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